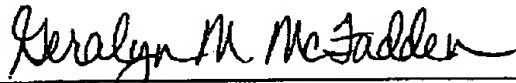


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OCT 06 2005**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/837,687
Applicant : Paolo Palmas et al.
Filed : April 18, 2001
TC/A.U. : 1764
Examiner : Alexa A. Doroshenk

Confirmation No. 7848

Docket No. : 105345
Customer No. : 23490

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT "A"

Sir:

In reply to the Office action of June 6, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.